

REMARKS

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's statement that claims 2-5 and 8-11 contain allowable subject matter. Claims 2 and 8 have been amended. Claims 2 and 8 have been rewritten in independent form with some clarification. Claims 1, 6, 7 and 12-14 have been canceled. Claims 2-5 and 8-11 remain pending in the present application.

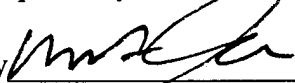
Claims 1, 6, 7 and 12-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Yasuda. The rejection is respectfully traversed. Claims 1, 6, 7 and 12-14 have been canceled and thus this rejection is no longer applicable to those claims.

Regarding claims 2-5 and 8-11, as agreed by the Office Action, these claims include allowable subject matter. Consequently, all pending claims now recite allowable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the § 102 rejection be withdrawn and claims 2-5 and 8-11 be allowed.

In view of the above, Applicants believe the pending application is in immediate condition for allowance.

Dated: January 25, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By  #33,082

Mark J. Thronson

Registration No.: 33,082

Gianni Minutoli

Registration No.: 41,198

DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO LLP

1825 Eye Street, NW

Washington, DC 20006-5403

(202) 420-2200

Attorney for Applicant